

House Resolution 1814

By: Representative Lord of the 142nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Ms. Molly Howard as the recipient of the 2008 MetLife/NASSP National High
2 School Principal of the Year award; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Molly Howard, principal of Jefferson County High School in Louisville,
4 Georgia, has been named the 2008 MetLife/National Association of Secondary School
5 Principals National High School Principal of the Year; and

6 WHEREAS, she graduated from Wrens High School in Wrens, Georgia, and went on to earn
7 a Bachelor of Science degree from Augusta State College in 1977, a Master's of Education
8 from Augusta State University in 1982, an Education Specialist degree from Georgia
9 Southern University, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Georgia Southern
10 University; and

11 WHEREAS, she began her teaching career at Wrens High School working with students with
12 moderate and severe intellectual disabilities; served as director of Ogeechee
13 Psychoeducational Services, a Georgia Department of Education program that serves
14 students with severe emotional and behavioral disabilities; and opened Jefferson County
15 High School in 1995 as its principal; and

16 WHEREAS, she and her dedicated staff have managed to change the culture of learning at
17 Jefferson County High School by setting higher expectations and eliminating all lower level
18 courses; and

19 WHEREAS, upon arriving at Jefferson County High School, she found that only 20 percent
20 of the school's students were high achieving, 10 percent joined the military or attended
21 technical schools, and 70 percent "graduated and stayed at home repeating a cycle of
22 poverty"; and

1 WHEREAS, when Jefferson was built in 1995, over half of the county's adult population did
2 not have a high school education; determined to change that statistic, Principal Howard now
3 has students starting the ninth grade taking college preparatory level English, math, science,
4 and social studies; and

5 WHEREAS, she and her staff have managed to turn Jefferson High into a true professional
6 community, implementing several strategies to increase collaboration among teachers in
7 order to best serve the student population, such as an "Algebra That Works" (ATW) program
8 which breaks Algebra I into four units, allowing students a greater chance of mastering the
9 course; and

10 WHEREAS, Principal Howard has demonstrated remarkable skills as a leader in the face of
11 some very difficult circumstances; and

12 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding achievements of this
13 Georgian be appropriately recognized.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
15 the members of this body join together to recognize Ms. Molly Howard on being the
16 recipient of the 2008 MetLife/NASSP National High School Principal of the Year award and
17 for her many outstanding achievements and contributions to her community and the state.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to
19 transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Ms. Molly Howard.